of sick small scale units. Refinance assistance for this purpose through banks and SFCs cover margin money, working capital loan, cash losses, minimum capital expenditiure required for restarting the unit on a viable level etc.

NABARD provides refinance assistance to Commercial Banks, Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks for financing the project components of artisans, cottage and village industries and tiny sector units in rural areas. Financial assistance with respect to tiny industries is given upto Rs. 5 lakhs and composite loans upto Rs. 30,000 sanctioned to rural artisans, handicraft artisans and village and cottage industrial units, are also refinanced by NABARD. NABARD has also created a separate "Soft Loan Assistance Fund for Margin Money" and has formulated a scheme for provision of soft loan, equity type assistance for margin money to prospective entrepreneurs for enabling them to avail of financial assistance for setting up tiny/cottage/village industries.

The Government sanctions funds for implementation of programmes of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, which is responsible for promotion and development of Khadi & Village Industries through budgetary sources under plans.

(c) and (d) As per information received from State Government authorities (District Industries Centres), assistance provided to small and cottage industries in the districts of Vadodara, Surat, Broach in Gujarat including that of tribal areas is given below :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
Broach	539·96	406·08	494·00
Vadodara	87·77	32·13	100·00
Surat	375·90	465·19	357·00

The number of small scale, cottage and artisan units set up in the three districts during the last three years including tribal areas are reported to be as under :—

	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
Broach	617	726	673
Vadodara	1255	1103	985
Surat	1553	1614	1079

Projects given to Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum

2654. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the projects given to Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and their budgetary and non-budgetary provision of outlay in each case;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation are already over burdened for the completion of projects in hand and in some cases they are behind the schedule by two-three years; and

(c) if so, whether Government, in order to keep pace with the target plan, propose to allot the projects mentioned in part (a) above to private sectors.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) The requisite information has already been conveyed in reply to parts (a) and (b) of Unstarred Question No. 703 on 10-11-1986 in the Rajya Sabha.

(b) While some of the projects have had time over-runs, a number of them have been completed within the scheduled period.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Natural gas grid in Gujarat

2655. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to establish a natural gas grid in Gujarat in view of the abundant availability of natural gas in various oil fields of Gujarat and also in view of the fact that millions of cubic meter of gas is just flared away; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether any techno-economic survey for forming a gas-grid is done; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) and (b) There is a network of pipelines connecting a number of fields and consumers in North and South Gujarat. Flaring of a small quantity of gas is unavoidable due to lower offtake by consumers because of various operational and technical problems at their end. The pipeline network can be expanded in future, wherever necessary, depending on locations of new consumers and producing fields.

Delay in licensing for drug exports

2656. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Indian Express of 20th July, 1986 that there have been complaints of delay in licensing for drug exports; if so, what are the reasons for such delays;

(b) whether these delays are due to Government's preference for our exports without full provision for domestic market;

(c) whether Government are aware that various cash compensatory and other export incentives are being used by the exporters to export goods which are in short supply in the country at lower prices in order to cash in or other export benefits; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, no specific case of delay has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No shortages have been reported in respect of drugs currently being exported.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of diesel generating sets

2657. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether imports of Diesel Generating sets are proposed from East European Countries only instead of from West European countries as reported in the Economic Times dated the 29th October, 1986; and

(b) whether experience gained so far gives a clear edge to Diesel Generating sets